

MINUTES
Underhill Conservation Commission
January 14, 2019
Underhill Town Hall

Present: Karen McKnight, Daphne Tanis, Amy Golodetz, Dan Steinbauer, Betsy Chapek, Laurie Graham

Absent: Pat Lamphere, Nancy McRae, Peter Hiskes,

Guest: Steven Webster

Welcome and Opening Remarks: Karen welcomed all and introduced evening's agenda

Public Comment: John and Barbara Koier

John and Barbara Koier joined us to generate awareness about the 'The Vermont Master Naturalist' program. The program seeks to educate individuals in their respective communities. Alishia Daniels, developer and instructor, requires 10 individuals to sign up with the program to launch the specific Jericho /Underhill program. UCC members were very enthused about joining the program, but cost could be an inhibitor. John promised to get back to the UCC on cost and potential funding.

Approval Minutes: December 2018 meeting minutes accepted as final with edits.

Discussion:

Underhill Annual Report Update

UCC members moved to approve UCC report as is with the addition of dollar amount raised from year's UCC plant sale.

Town Plan Survey Update/discussion

Amy added Land Use and Development Regulation excerpts and summaries to the natural resource questions on the Planning Commission's survey, so survey responders can be better informed. She did not add to the water quality question. Karen to email Cynthia Seybolt regarding the status of updates to questionnaire. Daphne to research 2008 Town Survey for questions regarding history and culture with the potential of adding a question(s).

Environmental Problem Solving Project request -Steve Webster

Steve's proposal was accepted. Steve is waiting on an update.

UCC Invasive Species Plan

Town Select Board has asked the UCC to create an Underhill Invasive Species Plan.

Plan needs to include; 'Goals, Priorities, Budget and Type of Activities'. Karen to develop draft document. Amy to contact DEC for example document and suggestions. Steve will set Google collaborative platform to support the development of the Invasive Species Plan.

UCC Winter Educational Series

Tom Rogers will present at Town Hall on March 7th, at 6:30. Daphne to finalize 'talking points' with Tom, prior to next UCC month's meeting, February 11. Members would like to include the following 'Talking Points':

- Invasive Species
 - o how they impact environment, wildlife and humans
 - o Habitat changes
- Climate Change Impacts
 - o Impact on hibernators
 - o Impacts on Wildlife – rabies, ticks, etc.,
- Importance of Town Forest
- Importance of protecting wildlife corridors

Other

Wednesday evening session in Richmond- Sue Morse Cougars.

Forest Management Presentation -Saturday 1-19-19 in Huntington

The Crane Brook Conservation sign on the south side of New road has been taken down. Amy to store sign for future installation.

Meeting Action Items

1. Karen - 1. Email Andrew to get current draft copy of survey with Amy's additions. 2. Send out current survey questionnaire copy to members. 2. Develop Invasive Plan draft..
2. Betsy – 1. Call and reserve space for Tom Rogers 3-7-19 Presentation. 2. Contact Underhill Road Forman to re-install Crane Brook Conservation sign.
3. Amy – contact DEC for input for Invasive Species Plan.
4. Daphne – 1. develop Agenda/discussion topics for Tom Rogers 3-7-19 Presentation 2. Connect with Andrew to include history and culture questions.
5. Steve – Setup Google collaborative platform to support to creation of the Underhill Invasive Species document.

Adjournment: The meeting was officially adjourned at 7: 55 p.m.

Next Meeting: Monday, February 11, 2019, 6:30 p.m., Underhill Town Hall
draft document January 2019 UCC Meeting Minutes 1-14-19 draft V2.0